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Rodgers Asks Cuba Check

New Brunswick — Bernard F. Rodgers, GOP candidate for Congress in the new 15th District, today called upon the President for a complete accounting of Soviet intervention in the Western Hemisphere.

"If, as many reports indicate, there are Soviet troops in Cuba, we should act immediately to enforce the Monroe Doctrine," Rodgers stated. He continued:

"Republicans and Democrats should close ranks on a firm, clearly stated policy for Cuba, but first we must ascertain once and for all what the facts are. If there is a threat to our security, the American people have the right to know, and the President has the responsibility to tell them," Rodgers added.

"At the present moment, administration statements strike quite a different chord from other reports we are hearing, including reports from Senators from both sides of the aisle," he said.

"It is difficult to understand how the President can brush off the entry of military personnel merely by calling them 'technicians.' And it would be foolhardy to take the word of Castro or Khrushchev that missile equipment now coming in is strictly 'defensive' in nature," Rodgers continued.

"President Kennedy has at his disposal a wealth of intelligence-gathering machinery. He immediately should get a complete report from the CIA and make these facts available to the people.

"If the President determines from his intelligence reports that there is a Soviet military force in Cuba, he should give them an ultimatum to clear out of the Western Hemisphere. An immediate blockade should then be set up to prevent further military buildup and our forces in Guantanamo Bay should be alerted," Rodgers said.

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